

## YPSILANTI REPUBLICAN.

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## RATES OF ADVERTISING.

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## A BRIEF EXAMINATION,

Of the Projected System of Internal Improvements now in progress in this State, with a glance at the present condition of our finances, and future prospects as connected with the subject.

In presenting his views on these subjects of deep and abiding interest to every part of the State and to every individual concerned in its prosperity, the author disclaims and repudiates all party, local, or sectional feeling. His object is to present such facts connected with the subject as he has been enabled to obtain, and to draw such inferences and conclusions as they may warrant. He has no purposes to accomplish hereby, either public or private, in which every citizen of Michigan is not equally concerned with himself. Nor has he any thing in prospect either to hope or fear, that should bias his judgment or swerve him from the truth.—That this Examination should be entirely free from errors, either as to matters of fact or opinion, is scarcely to be expected under the circumstances.—Indeed the haste with which the materials have been collected and put together, as well as the imperfect state of documentary records in relation to parts of the system of improvements, render it improbable at least that it should be so. It is believed, however, that with the materials at hand it may be rendered sufficiently demonstrative of our true state and condition for the purposes had in view.

From the best sources of information within our reach, we find the projected system of internal improvements to comprise the following works, estimated to cost, as per statement annexed, \$9,821,026 24, as follows:

Length	Estimated cost.
Southern R.R. Road, 178 8-1000.	\$1,509,645 55
Central R.R. Road, 12 3-100.	1,736,103 58
Northern R.R. Road, 230	1,400,015 75
Saginaw Canal, 33 24-1000.	328,391 15
Clinton Canal, 218 29-80.	4,011,314 65
Union City & Detroit R.R., 20	144,008 56
Sault Ste. Marie Canal, 2	112,544 80
Improvement of Rivers.	
St. Joseph, ditto, not known.	304,295 00
Kalamazoo, ditto, in all 350 miles.	35,293 00
Grand River, ditto, 67.	67,309 99

Making as above, \$9,821,026 24. We have then in progress 577 miles of Railroad, 276 of Canals, and 380 of improved river navigation—which will constitute when completed five lines of internal communication from Lake Erie to Lake Michigan, running in nearly a parallel direction, from east to west, and at an average distance of 600 each other of 24 miles between the greatest diverging points on the Northern or Saginaw Canal and Southern Railroad—the distance between those points in a southern direction from the canal to the railroad being about 93 miles, and embracing in its space the other three lines, and making an average distance through the extent, between the several lines of about 20 miles.

The plan on which the works have been commenced and prosecuted is, that no one line shall take precedence of another, but that they shall progress simultaneously or *pari passu*. This it is understood was the only condition on which the Northern and Southern as well as some of the intermediate sections of the State would yield their support to the system or consent to the commencement of any work of internal improvement by the State, and hence the pledge so often spoken of was given to the combined powers of the North, the South, and those more immediately interested in some of the intermediate portions of the work.

Of this compromise and pledge, and its effects and consequences, it is our duty to speak fearlessly and candidly, and in due time and order we will endeavor to perform that duty, respectfully if possible, but faithfully at all hazards.

The only experimental test within our knowledge of the accuracy of the estimate on the cost of these works, is furnished by the Central Railroad from Detroit to Jacksonburg. From the unfinished state of the work, this cannot, however, be regarded as an unerring standard; but in the absence of any other guide, we adopt it as the basis of our calculation, confident that it will be found to be too low when the day arrives that the completion of the work and a settlement of the accounts shall have put the question at rest.

The average estimated cost of the Central Railroad per mile is \$9,230 50. The actual disbursements (as shown by accounts rendered) on 78 1/2 miles from

Detroit to Jackson is \$572,759 59. Estimated amount required to finish this part of the road (most of which is in contract) is 404,058 73.

Total, \$976,848 42.

Being an average of \$12,443-92 per mile and showing an excess of \$3,213 42 per mile, or about 35 per cent. over the entire original estimated cost of the work. We have therefore added to the reported estimate of cost \$9,821,026 24. Thirty-five per cent. being 3,437,359 10.

Which gives as the supposed actual cost of the \$13,258,385 34. To meet a part of this sum, we have issued State Bonds to the amount of \$5,000,000, from sales of which there was received in all to the first of February last, \$1,300,000, and, by the terms of the contracts for the sale of these bonds, we are entitled

to receive from the Morris Canal and Banking Company, at the rate of one million dollars per year, in quarterly yearly instalments of \$250,000 each; the first instalment to be paid on the first of July next.—As there is no fund set apart or provision made to meet the interest falling due on these bonds, and by the *pari passu* principle on which our works are to progress, but a very small portion of them can be rendered productive before this fund must be expended, we leave out of question any receipts that may be realized from the use of the works, and proceed to state the amount as it must stand on the first of January 1843, charging the principal receivable in each year, with the interest falling due on outstanding bonds:

Amount received from sale of the five million bonds to the first of February 1839.	\$1,300,000
Amount receivable in the year ending April 1, 1840.	1,000,000
Do. Do. 1841.	1,000,000
Do. Do. 1842.	1,000,000
Do. Do. for the remaining three quarters of '42 and up to January 1, 1843.	700,000

Completing the amount of the loan of \$5,000,000, from this sum we deduct interest, commissions, and charges, as follows: On \$1,300,000, the last payment of which was made Feb. 1, 1839, we compute the interest from Sept. 1, 1838, at 6 per cent to April 1, 1839, 7 months, is \$45,500. Commissions at 2 1/2 per cent. 32,500. Interest on the above from April 1, 1839, to April 1, 1840, one year, 138,000. Commission on 1,000,000 received this year, 25,000. Interest on 2,300,000 from April 1, 1840, to April 1, 1841, 138,000. Commission on 1,000,000 as above, 25,000. Interest on 3,300,000 from April 1, 1841, to April 1, 1842, 198,000. Commission on 1,000,000 as above, 25,000. Interest on 4,300,000 from April 1, 1842, to Jan. 1, 1843, when the last payment falls due, 193,500. Commissions on 700,000 as above, 17,500.

Making, \$778,000. Which deducted from 5,000,000, leaves the sum of \$4,222,000.

From this statement we have a view of the proceeds of the loan of \$5,000,000, that may have been applied or will remain on hand on the first of January 1843, agreeably to the terms of our contract and the arrangements as now existing.—This however presents the matter as it should be, rather than it is. To present it in its true light, we must deduct the unavailable funds that have fallen out or become entangled on their way to the public works, and include the funds derived from other sources. The amount actually paid over to the officers in charge of the internal improvement fund is as follows:

Surplus revenue, rec'd from U. S.	\$286,751 49
Five per cent. on sales of public lands to Jan. 1, 1838.	156,794 96
Proceeds of \$1,300,000 State bonds after deduct. coms.	1,268,000
Total amount received to 1st Feb. 1839.	\$1,212,546 45

As the statements given in the Governor's Message, the report of the Treasurer, and the report of the Auditor, all agree with the others, we give the several statements of the amount expended to the 1st of January, 1839, leaving the difference to be reconciled by those who have the means of doing it, we have not.

Amount expended as per Gov.'s Statement.	
1 On Southern Railroad	\$216,825 70
2 On Saginaw Canal	572,759 59
3 On Central Railroad	29,938 69
4 On Northern Railroad	34,098 84
5 On Clinton Canal	17,203 99
6 On Saginaw Canal	1,946 75
7 On St. Marie Canal	24,139 64
8 On Navigable Rivers	
9 On Salt Springs	
10 Negotiating State Loan	
11 Clerk hire for Auditor General	
12 Surveyors Instruments	
13 Loan to Bank of Gibraltar	
14 Contingent expenses,	

Com. Rep. of 1838.	Com. Rep. of 1839.	Total by Com. Rep.
1 \$ 12,695 07	\$236,106 51	\$248,801 58
2 61 74	235 99	297 73
3 367,995 25	200,479 74	568,475 99
4 8,226 35	12,772 44	21,000 79
5 12,117 27	21,981 57	34,098 84
6 9,045 04	8,155 95	17,203 99
7 1,152 27	794 38	1,946 75
8 1,287 84	22,802 50	24,090 34
9 3,000 00	3,000 00	6,000 00
10 92 09	927 00	1,019 09
11 200 00	200 00	400 00
12 403 79	403 79	807 58
13 20,000 00	20,000 00	40,000 00
14 3,342 02	3,336 80	6,678 82
		\$847,114 82

Taking the statement of the Commissioners as a guide, there was applied on the public works up to the first of January last, \$947,114 82, which deducted from the sum received up to the first of February, \$1,711,546 45, leaves unaccounted for or unapplied, the sum of 764,431 63, subject to a deduction of such drafts as may have been made upon it from the first of January (the date to which the account is rendered) to the 1st of February, being the day on which the State Bank suspended payment. Leaving this branch of the subject as it is, we proceed, from the data furnished by the foregoing statements, to complete our view of the financial condition and prospects of the State on the first of January, 1843.

By the foregoing statement we have realized from every source for the internal improvement fund, \$1,711,546 45. Of which there has been applied as per commissioner's statement, \$947,114 82.

We have diminished the \$4,222,750, being the amount receivable on the State Loan \$1,268,000, being the avails of \$1,300,000 State bonds, which leaves to be applied the sum of \$2,952,750 00.

Making the sum total applied and due (excluding unavailable funds.) \$3,899,864 82.

Being the avails of the State bonds \$5,000,000. Surplus revenue, 286,751 49. Five per cent. on sales of public lands, 156,794 96.—\$5,445,543 45.

Allowing the work to progress according to the present plan, and to cost as shown by our preceding statement \$13,258,385 34.

From which deduct amount

provided for, 3,899,846 82

We have as the amount required to complete the work the sum of \$9,358,520 52.

which if provided for by a loan on the best terms that can be anticipated, will require the issue of at least \$12,000,000 more of the State bonds—our works will then be something more than one fourth (say three tenths) finished, and allowing them in this condition to produce a net income of one hundred thousand dollars annually, and we have the following view of our affairs:

A public debt of \$5,000,000, requiring annually, to pay the interest, \$300,000 00.	
1200 miles of internal communication, forming five parallel lines across the state, commenced, and three tenths finished, producing yearly \$100,000.	
The balance to be provided for by a new loan or taxes, 200,000—300,000,00.	

An additional loan required to finish our public works, say 12 millions of dollars; which, allowing it to produce 10 millions to be applied to the object, will give an average of 11,583 dollars per mile for the entire works, (1200 miles) and will require an additional fund to pay interest of 720,000 dollars yearly.

Suppose then we follow up and carry out the system, our entire State Debt will be when our works are finished, 17 millions dollars, requiring an income of one million and twenty thousand dollars yearly to pay interest—and giving eight years as the term for the accomplishment of the work, it cannot be supposed, that while in a state of progression, this income will keep pace with the increasing interest on their cost, and as we have no funds to set apart for the payment of the interest, it must be met by taxes, or by diverting a portion of the principal received on our bonds, and consequently increasing our debt: And suppose the ability of the State adequate to the undertaking, the question is, will these works ever pay back cost and interest? On this subject as on most others of alike character, conjecture must in some measure supply the place of facts; and of belief is, that these works, if all completed, will not pay interest, even at three per cent.

The business and resources of the West, the competition we will have to meet from rival works of improvement, are yet to be developed. These matters to be made the foundation of all calculations to be made of the income of our roads & canals as the channels of commerce, and are subject to contingencies that render any calculation based upon them wholly unsafe for practical purposes. Ohio, Indiana and Illinois are to a considerable extent our rivals. They have the advantage of us in several particulars: They were in the field before us: Their systems of finances are established and in successful operation: Their state credit is unimpaired, and their plans and projects thus far have been creditably sustained. Lake Michigan is a natural highway and will also come in competition with us. These facts should lead us to question the soundness of any sanguine calculation of profit from business south and west of Lake Michigan. A comparison of our projected system with the actual results of the New York canals, will render our prospects still less flattering. The N. York canals, possessing unequalled local advantages and commanding almost the entire business patronage of the west, yielded last year a net profit of \$841,888 00—and we believe the largest it has ever produced,—which would fall short near \$200,000 of paying the interest on the sum required to complete our system or finish what we have begun. Can the day ever arrive when the State of Michigan (with a Lake navigation on the West, the North, and the East, and the Canals, Rail Roads and Navigable Rivers of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, on the South) can reasonably calculate on a business patronage for her Roads and Canals across the peninsula equaling that of the canals of N. York? We cannot believe that any rational man ever has or will make such a calculation.

Taking into account every thing connected with this all important question to this State, we cannot believe there is any thing to sustain the calculation, that the profits or income of our Improvements, if completed agreeable to the present plan, will ever approximate the income of the New York canals.—Where, then, will a perseverance in this work land us? This is a grave question, and one that addresses itself to the public guardians at this moment with an intensity of interest that embraces the destinies and future prospects of the State. We are almost surrounded by a new, rich and fertile country inviting population and so far as State policy is concerned, better far than Michigan. If we persevere in the work we have laid out, we must before it is completed burden the State with a load of taxes that will change the current of emigration to our neighbor States and Territories and drive away the better part of our present population. The impulse is already given and perseverance in our present course is all that is required to give it celebrity.

On a calm and sober view of our condition, we cannot believe that motives of public policy will be found to prompt us to persevere under circumstances and prospects so unfavorable and forbidding. Nor can we believe that the compromise or pledge (or perhaps properly speaking the log-rolling system) under which our works were commenced will find advocates sufficiently bold and reckless to brave the consequences that we believe are now too apparent to be mistaken and must inevitably follow such attempt.—The system of log-rolling in legislation embraces at once all that is pernicious in principle and demoralizing and ruinous in practice. It closes the doors against all inquiry touching the merits of any proposition, and generally, as in the present case, the public are made the victims to promote schemes of selfishness and individual interests in support of projects that have no public merits to recommend them and when completed are only useful as monuments of the folly or wickedness in which they were conceived. Of the

truth of these remarks our own case affords most ample illustration. That one line of internal communication between Lake Erie and Michigan would be both useful and profitable there can be no doubt. A consciousness of this fact induced the Detroit and St. Joseph R.R. Road Company to embark their private means in the enterprise, which is the best evidence that could be given of their opinion on the subject.—The movement on the part of the State to take this work in hand was the signal for hitching teams, either to block the wheels in the case of this road or tack on a multitude of projects that but for this opportunity would never have been seriously entertained or thought of by the public. The effects of this policy we are now realizing. It was the clipping of venality and selfishness, conceived and brought forth in utter disregard of the interests and prosperity of the State, and for it has been executed (with the honorable exceptions in the support of which it was engendered. We are aware that in this speaking of this system of log-rolling improvement (so called) we are warring with a popular hobby that has been used in a way to deceive many honest and upright men: That we incur the charge of being an enemy to internal improvements &c. These are arguments well adapted to the use of demagogues and no doubt they will use them, and in some cases successfully for a time: But the day of such delusions is fast passing away; facts are addressing themselves to the understanding of men in a way to be felt, and not mistaken, besides we have no axes to grind. Our object is to direct public attention to the actual state and condition of the country with a view to such a change of internal policy as its interests demand.—And what intelligent man that will candidly examine this matter can believe that the interests of this State require or would be promoted by the construction of five lines of Rail Road and Canals across the peninsula at an average distance from each other of less than twenty miles and at a cost of from sixteen to eighteen millions of dollars, when by the most extravagant calculation the business of the country west for twenty years to come would not give full employment to one line. Let the whole of these works be converted into a stock and bonds subscription, we venture the prediction that no responsible subscriber would be found for the first dollar either in the State or out of it. Or if the State should put into market a Scrip predicated on such a stock for the purpose of raising funds it would not command fifty cents on the dollar.

But if we have reasoned on wrong premises, and the object really is to carry a rail road or canal as near as practicable to every man's door and thereby increase the value of property by the facilities afforded, it is far from mending the matter or rendering the plan less preposterous: For though the State is to construct these works, the payment of both principal and interest must become a tax direct or indirect on our own citizens to make up whatever balance may remain after applying the amount received from business beyond the limits of our own State. If then one line is capable of doing the foreign business and will produce enough to pay for itself—the other four must be a tax on ourselves. The question then presents itself to the tax payers and land owners, whether it is good policy to encumber the taxable property of the State to the amount of thirteen millions of dollars and interest, making about \$500 a head on all the taxable inhabitants now in the State (allowing the number to be thirty thousand) for the benefit to be derived from these improvements. For one we believe such a policy ruinous to the country, and that long before it can be carried out, judging from its execution thus far, a resort to onerous and heavy taxes will be unavoidable, and that it is even questionable whether the credit of the State is adequate to the accomplishment of the undertaking.

The sooner therefore we abandon the system the better, and before our credit is further impaired by perseverance in this wild, worthless and ruinous scheme, let us yield to the dictates of common sense and common prudence by appropriating the remaining funds provided for, to the completion of such part of our public works as promise the most ample and prompt return for the investment, leaving the balance to be resumed when the resuscitated credit of the State and the wants and necessities of the country shall indicate the propriety of the measure.

HONESTUS.  
Detroit, March 22, 1839.

## SENATOR MORRIS' SPEECH ON THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY. REPLY TO MR. CLAY.

This brings me, Mr. President, to the consideration of the petition presented by the Senator from Kentucky, and to an examination of the views he has presented to the Senate on the highly important subject. Sir, I feel, I sensibly feel, my inadequacy in entering into a controversy with that old and veteran senator; but nothing high or low shall prevent me from an honest discharge of my duty here. If imperfectly done, it may be ascribed to the want of ability, not intention. If the power of my mind, and the strength of my body were equal to the task, I would arouse every man, every woman and child in the country, the danger which besets them, if such doctrines and views as are presented by the Senator should ever be carried into effect. His denunciations are against abolitionists, and under that term are classed all those who petition Congress on the subject of slavery. Such I understand to be the argument, and as such I shall treat it. I, in the first place, put in a broad denial to all his general facts, charging the portion of my fellow citizens with improper motives, or dangerous designs. That their acts are lawful, he does not pretend to deny. I call for proof to sustain his charges. None such has been offered, and none such exists, or can be found. I repeat them as calumnious double distilled in the alembic of slavery. I deny them, also, in particulars and in general, and let us see upon what ground they rest, or by what process of reasoning they are sustained.

The very first view of these petitioners against our right of petition strikes, the mind that more is intended than at first meets the eye. Why was the committee on the District overlooked in this case, and the Senator from Kentucky made the organ of communication? Is it understood that anti-abolitionism is a passport to popular favor, and that the action of this District shall present for that favor to the public a gentleman upon this hobby? Is this petition presented as a subject of legislation? Was it solicited by members of Congress, from citizens here, for political effect? Let the country judge. The petitioners state that no persons but themselves are authorized to interfere with slavery in the District; that Congress are their own Legislature; and the question of slavery in the District is only between them and their constituted legislators; and they protest against all interference of others. But, sir, as if ashamed of this open position in favor of slavery they in a very coy manner say that some of them are not slaveholders, and might be forbidden by conscience to hold slaves. There is more dictation, more political heresy, more dangerous doctrine contained in this position, than I have ever before seen couched together in so many words. We! Congress their own legislators in all that concerns this district! Let those who may put on the livery, and legislate for them and not for their constituents, do so; for myself, I came here with a different view, and for different purposes. I came a free man to represent the people of Ohio; and I intend to leave this such a representative without wearing any other title. Why talk about executive usurpation and influence over the members of Congress? I have always viewed this district influence as far more dangerous than that of any other power. It has been able to extort, yes, extort from Congress millions to pay District debts, make district improvements, and in support of the civil and criminal jurisprudence of the District. Pray, sir, what right has congress to pay corporate debts of the cities in the district more than the debts of the corporate cities in your state and mine? None, sir. Yet this has been done to a vast amount, and the next step is, that we who pay all this, shall not be permitted to petition congress on the subject of their institutions; for, if we can be prevented in one case, we can in all possible cases. Mark, sir, how plain a tale will silence these petitioners. If slavery in the district concerns only the inhabitants of Congress, so does all municipal regulations. Should they extend to granting lottery, gaming houses, tipping houses, and other places calculated to promote and encourage vice—should a representative in Congress be instructed by his constituents to use his influence, and vote against such establishments, and the people of the District should instruct him to vote for them, which should he obey? To state the question is to answer it; otherwise the boasted right of intervention by the constituent body is "mere sound," signifying nothing. Sir, the inhabitants of the district have no right to state legislation and state policy; they cannot complain of this, for their condition is voluntary; and as this city is the focus of power, of influence, and considered also as that of fashion, if not folly, and as the streams which flow from it irradiates the whole country, it is right, it is proper, that it should be subject to the state policy and state power, and not used as a haven to ferment and corrupt the whole body politic.

The honorable Senator has said the petition, though from a city, is a fair expression of the opinion of the district. As such I treated it, I am willing to acknowledge the respectability of the petitioners and their rights, and I claim for the people of my own state equal respectability and equal rights that the people of the district are entitled to: any particular rights and advantages I cannot admit.

I agree with the senator that the proceedings on abolition petitions, heretofore, have not been the most wise and prudent course. They ought to have been referred and acted on. Such was my object a day or two since, when I laid on your table a resolution to refer them to a committee for inquiry.—You did not suffer it, sir, to be printed.—The country and posterity will judge between the people whom I represent and those who caused to be printed the petition from the city. It cannot be possible that justice can have been done in both cases. The exclusive legislation of Congress over the District is as much the act of the constituent body, as the general legislation of congress over the states, & to the operation of this act have the people within the district submitted themselves. I cannot, however, join the senator that the majority, in refusing to receive and refer petitions, did not intend to destroy or impair the right in this particular. They certainly have done so.

The senator admits that the abolitionists are now formidable; that something must be done to produce harmony. Yes, sir, do justice, and harmony will be restored. Act impartially, that justice may be done; hear petitions on both sides. If they are offered, and give righteous judgements, and your people will be satisfied. You cannot compromise them out of their rights nor lull them to sleep with fallacies in the shape of reports. You cannot conquer them by rebuke, nor deceive them by sophistry. Remember you cannot now turn public opinion, nor can you overthrow it. You must, and you will, abandon the high ground you have taken, and receive petitions. The reason of the case, the argument, and the judgement of the people, are all against you. One in this case can "chase a thousand," and the voice of justice will be heard whenever you agitate the subject.

The honorable senator not only admits that Abolitionists are formidable, but that they consist of three classes. The friends of humanity and justice, or those actuated by those principles, compose one class.—These form a very numerous class, and the acknowledgement of the senator, proves the immutable principles upon which opposition to slavery rests. Men are opposed to it from principles of humanity and justice—men are abolitionists, he admits, on that account. We thank the senator for teaching us that word, we intend to improve it. The next class of abolitionists, the senator says, are so apparently, for

the purpose of advocating the right of petition. What are we to understand from this? That the right of petition needs advocacy. Who has denied this right, or who has attempted to abridge it? The slaveholding power, that power which avoids open discussion, and the free exercise of opinion; it is that power alone which renders the advocacy of the right of petition necessary, having seized upon all the powers of the government. It is fast uniting together those opposed to its iron rule, no matter to what political party they have heretofore belonged; they are united with the first class, and act from principles of humanity and justice; and it is the mists and shades of slavery was not the atmosphere in which gentlemen were enveloped, they would see constant and increasing numbers of our most worthy and intelligent citizens attaching themselves to the two classes mentioned, and rallying under the banners of abolitionism. They are compelled to go there, if the gentleman will have it so, in order to defend and perpetuate the liberties of the country. The hopes of the oppressed spring up afresh from this discussion of the gentleman.

The third class the senator says are those who, to accomplish their ends, act without regard to the consequences. To them, all the rights of property, of the States of the Union, the senator says, are nothing. He says they aim at other objects than those they profess—emancipation in the District of Columbia. No, says the senator their object is universal emancipation, not only in the district, but in the Territories and in the states. There object is to set free three millions of negro slaves.—Who made the senator, in his place here, the censor of his fellow citizens? Who authorized him to charge them with other objects than those they profess? How long is it since the senator himself, on this floor, denounced slavery as an evil? What other inducements or objects had he then in view? Suppose universal emancipation to be the object of these petitioners, is it not a noble and praiseworthy object; worthy of the Christian, the philanthropist, the statesman and the citizen? But he says, they (the petitioners) aim to excite one portion of the country against another. I deny, sir, the charge and call for the proof; it is gratuitous, uncalculated for, and unjust towards my fellow citizens. This is the language of a stricken conscience, seeking for the palliation of its own acts by charging guilt upon others. It is the language of those who, failing in argument endeavor to pass suspicion upon the character of their opponents, in order to draw public attention from themselves. It is the language of disguise and concealment, and not that of fair and honorable investigation, the object of which is truth. I again put in a broad denial to this charge, that any portion of these petitioners, whom I represent, seek to excite one portion of the country against another, and without proof I cannot admit that the assertion of the honorable Senator establishes the fact.

Who, sir, is making this question a political affair? Not the petitioners. It was the slaveholding power, which first made this move. I have noticed for some time past that many of the public prints in this city, as well as elsewhere, have been filled with essays against Abolitionists for exercising the rights of freedom.

Both political parties, however, have courted them in private and denounced them in public, and both have equally deceived them. And who shall dare say that an Abolitionist has no right to carry his principles to the ballot box. Who fears the ballot box? The honest in heart, the lover of our country and its institutions? No, sir! It is feared by the tyrant; he who usurps power, and seizes upon the liberty of others; he, for one, fears the ballot box.—Where is the slave to party in this country who is so lost to his own dignity, or so corrupted by interest or power, that he does not, or will not, carry his principles and his judgement to the ballot box? Such an one ought to have the mark of Cain in his forehead, and sent to labor among the negro slaves of the South. The honorable Senator seems anxious to take under his care the ballot box, as he has the slave system to the country, and direct who shall or who shall not use it for the redress of what they deem a political grievance.—

He admits that political parties are willing to unite with them any class of men, in order to carry their purposes. Are Abolitionists, then, to blame if they pursue the same course? It seems the Senator is willing that his party should make use of even Abolitionists; but he is not willing that Abolitionists should use the same party for their purpose. This seems not to be in accordance with that equality of rights about which we heard so much at the last session. Abolitionists have nothing to fear. If public opinion should be for them, politicians will be around and amongst them as and as noisy as the locusts of Egypt. The Senator seems to admit that, if the Abolitionists are joined to either political party, there is danger—danger of what? That humanity and justice will prevail? That the right of petition will be secure to ALL, EQUALLY? and that the long lost and trodden African race will be restored to their natural rights? Would the Senator regret to see this accomplished by argument, persuasion, and the force of an enlightened public opinion? I hope not; and these petitioners ask the use of no other weapons in this warfare.

These ultra-Abolitionists, says the Senator, invoke the power of this Government to their aid. And pray, sir, what power should they invoke? Have they not the same right to approach this Government as other men? Is a Senator of this body authorized to deny them any privileges secured to other citizens? It so, let him show me the character of his power, and I will be silent. Until he can do this, I shall uphold, justify, and sustain, them as I do other citizens. The exercise of power by Congress in behalf of the slaves within this District, the Senator seems to think, no one without the District has the least claim to ask for. It is because I reside without the District, and am called within it by the Constitution, that I object to the existence of slavery here. I deny the gentleman's position, then, on this point. On this, then,

It is a great hindrance to a proper discharge of their duties here. Remove slavery from the District and this evil will disappear. But slavery presents within the District other and still more appalling scenes—scenes well calculated to awaken the deepest emotions of the human heart.—The slave trade exists here in all its horrors, and unwhipped for its crimes. In view of the very chair which you now occupy, Mr. President, if the massy walls of this building did not prevent it, you could see the prison, the pen—where human beings, when purchased for sale, are kept until the cargo can be procured for transportation to a Southern or foreign market, for I have little doubt slaves are carried to Texas for sale, though I do not know the fact.

(To be Continued.)

## STATE LEGISLATURE.

### IN SENATE.

THURSDAY, April 4, 1839.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Comstock.

Mr. Trowbridge, from the committee on incorporations, reported "a bill to amend an act to incorporate the Mechanics' Society of Detroit," which was read twice, and on motion of Mr. Kercheval, ordered to be engrossed for the third reading.

Mr. Summers called up the resolution yesterday offered by Mr. Hawkins, relative to settling with the State Bank, and laid on the table.

Mr. Bradford moved to refer the same to the committee on finance, with instruction to report by bill to-morrow morning which was agreed to.

Mr. Gordon called up the "bill to vacate the present seat of government," &c., and the question being on the passage thereof,

Mr. Gidley moved to postpone indefinitely the consideration of the subject, which was disagreed to, and

The "bill to vacate the present seat of government of the State of Michigan, and establish the same until the year 1847," was then passed by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Bradford, Curtis, Etheridge, Gordon, Greenly, Harrington, McCamly, Summers, Wing—8.

Nays—Messrs. Gidley, Hawkins, Kercheval, Kingsley, Trowbridge—6.

Mr. Gordon, from the committee on the judiciary, reported "a bill to legalize the acts of the trustees of the first Presbyterian Society of the township of Troy, in the county of Oakland," which was read twice, and on motion of Mr. Greenly, referred to the committee of the whole and ordered to be printed.

The President announced a message from the Governor, stating that he had approved and filed in the office of Secretary of State.

"An act to incorporate the Grass Lake academy and teachers' seminary."

And "a joint resolution relative to moneys advanced by the Michigan State Bank to members and officers of the legislature."

Adjourned.

### IN SENATE.

FRIDAY, April 5, 1839.

The senate met and was called to order by the president.

Mr. Hawkins reported the following resolution, which was read twice and referred to committee on internal improvements:

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, That the Treasurer of this State, be directed to draw his check of fifteen thousand dollars, upon the fund negotiated for by the auditor general, under the law approved March 29, 1839, with the bank of Michigan, upon the delivery to him of the auditor's warrant issued for the said sum of fifteen thousand dollars, dated 25th February, 1839, payable to Ypsilanti and Tecumseh rail road in pursuance of law.

The bill supplementary to state bank bill was read twice, and referred to committee of the whole.

The bill to incorporate Marshall college, was read twice, and referred to committee on literature.

On motion of Mr. Trowbridge, the senate took up Mr. Etheridge's resolution relative to two sessions a day, and the same having been amended, was adopted as follows:

Resolved, That during the remainder of the session, the senate will hold two sessions per day, commencing at 9 o'clock A. M., and half past 2 o'clock, Saturday's and Monday's excepted, on which days the afternoon session will be dispensed with.

On motion of Mr. Kingsley, Resolved, That the committee on judiciary be instructed to report to the senate a bill making it a penal offence for any officer of the state or other person to whom public money may be entrusted for any purpose, to use such money otherwise, than may be provided by law, or to exchange funds entrusted to him as a public officer for other funds of less value for private gain.

On motion of Mr. Hawkins, The senate adjourned.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, April 5, 1839.

Mr. Adam presented the claim of the sergeant at arms, which was referred to the committee on claims.

The chair presented the claims of Messrs. Bradford and Bacon, which was also referred to the committee on claims.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mr. Finney called up the following resolution, reported by the committee on internal improvements, and laid on the table on the 1st inst.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, That the board of commissioners of internal improvement be and they are hereby instructed to suspend all operations in locating or constructing the Clinton and Kalamazoo canal, west of Livingston county.

Mr. Adam moved to strike out all after the word "canal."

Mr. Livermore moved to add the words "and on all other works of internal improvement."

Mr. Acker then moved that the resolution and amendments be laid on the table, which motion prevailed.

Mr. Howland then moved that the House resolve itself into a committee of the whole, on the "bill to abolish certain State offices," which motion prevailed. (Mr. Fitzgerald in the Chair) and after some time spent thereon, the committee reported the bill back to the House, with sundry amendments, which were concurred in, and the bill laid upon the table.

On motion of Mr. Mack, the bill to in-

corporate the Detroit Typographical Society was made the special order of the day for Wednesday next.

The House then adjourned.

SATURDAY, April 6, 1839.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Bury. Mr. Little presented the petition of 95 persons of Genesee county, to repeal the license law, and prohibit the sale of intoxicating drinks, which was referred to the select committee.

Mr. Tucker, from the select committee, to whom was referred a resolution passed by the last legislature, concerning certain amendments proposed to the constitution of this State, reported a joint preamble and resolution which were adopted.

Mr. Renwick presented a petition of inhabitants of Washtenaw county for the incorporation of "Huron River Bank," which was referred to committee on incorporations.

Mr. Acker offered a joint preamble and resolution, setting forth certain mal practices committed by E. H. Lohrop, acting commissioner on the central railroad, and that in consequence of which, he has grossly violated the trust in him as a public officer, and should therefore be removed from office; being a joint resolution it is placed upon the table for one day according to rule.

On motion of Mr. Adam, the auditor general was requested to transmit a copy of the agreement made with the old Bank of Michigan for the advancement of certain sums of money to the State to carry on her works of internal improvement.

On motion of Mr. Adam, the bill from the Senate removing the capitol of the State to Marshall, was made the special order of the day for Monday next.

The House then went into committee of the whole on the tax bill, and obtained leave to sit again.

Adjourned.

STATE INDEBTEDNESS.—The Albany Ar-

gus of late date contains a statement prepared by Mr. Plagg, late Comptroller, showing the amount of stock issued or authorized to be issued in different states of the Union. Eight states, it appears, have kept themselves clear of such indebtedness.

Maine is in for	\$554,070 00
Massachusetts	4,200,000 00
New York	18,262,405 84
Pennsylvania	27,809,790 00
Maryland	11,492,080 73
Virginia	6,662,089 00
South Carolina	5,753,570 12
Alabama	10,800,000 00
Louisiana	23,735,000 00
Tennessee	7,148,163 66
Kentucky	7,360,000 00
Ohio	6,101,000 00
Indiana	11,890,000 00
Illinois	11,600,000 00
Missouri	2,500,000 00
Mississippi	7,000,000 00
Arkansas	3,000,000 00
Michigan	5,340,000 00
	\$170,867,129 35

If to the above we add the amount disposition by the U. S. in the treasuries of the several states for safe keeping

28,101,644 97

It makes the aggregate debt of all the states, existing and authorized,

\$198,907,824 32

The table, of which the above is a part, is followed by a second, classifying the object of expenditure; Thus:

For banking	\$52,640,000
For canals	60,201,551
For railroads	42,871,084
For turnpikes & M' Adam roads	6,608,958
For miscellaneous objects	5,474,684
	\$170,806,277

The third table shows the amount of debt authorized to be created by the eighteen states to each period of five years, from 1820 to 1835. The total sum authorized in each period are as follows, viz:

From 1820 to 1825	\$12,790,728
" 1825 to 1830	13,679,699
" 1830 to 1835	30,002,769
" 1835 to 1838 (34 years)	108,223,805
	\$174,695,994

Several millions of stock issued by N. York since 1820, and embraced in the above have been redeemed; and a small sum borrowed by other states before 1820, is excluded from the above footing.

ROYAL APPLAUSE.—That State affairs occupy her Majesty's attention, morning, noon and night, is evident from her frequent visits to Van Amburgh's lions. Having long known how her great domestic lion, Lord Melbourne, feeds, she became very anxious to know how the monarch of the woods managed at his meals; and certainly we cannot consider it any compliment on the part of the manager to have exposed a lamb to the chance of being devoured in her presence. But we must not omit noticing her Majesty's attention to other portions of the state visit. We are informed that "her Majesty expressed her approbation by gentle taps of her fan."

What a splendid *claqueur* her Majesty would make! George the Fourth used to tap his white kid forefingers together; etiquette forbade that applause should be audible. Henceforth fanning applause will be common universal; her Majesty is ever the pattern to all the school girls in the kingdom. Every thing with them is a *la Victoria*.—London Satirist.

Judge Wilkinson and Mr. Murdoch have been acquitted at Harrodsburgh, Kentucky. They were principals in the murderous affair that occurred at the Galt House, in Louisville, last winter, which resulted in the death of one or more persons. The jury were out but three or four minutes; eleven of the jurors were for rendering a verdict of "not guilty," without leaving the box, but the twelfth objected to that course. Col. Robertson, Mr. Hardin, Judge Rowan, and the Hon. S. S. Prentiss, of Mississippi, were the counsel for the accused.—*Nat. Gaz.*

WRECK.—We learn from the Galveston Gazette of the 14th inst., that the Schooner James Madison, Brannan, master, which sailed from Galveston for the Brassos, a few days previous, was wrecked and totally lost on the bar at the mouth of the river. The principal part of the cargo, consisting of lumber and provisions, was saved. No lives were lost.—*New Orleans Bulletin.*

## YPSILANTI REPUBLICAN.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 1839.

### MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

#### VILLAGE OF YPSILANTI.

ABRAHAM VOORHIES, President.  
G. THOMSON GRIDLEY, Recorder.  
MARK NORRIS, Trustee.  
CHANNY KRAFF, Trustee.  
GEORGE FRANK, Trustee.  
GILBERT MALLISTER, Trustee.  
ALLEN BUCK, Trustee.  
SAMUEL KILPATRICK, Marshal.  
WALTER B. HUNY, Treasurer.  
SALMON CHAMBERLAIN, Jr., Fire Wardens.  
VINCENT MARKHAM, Fire Wardens.  
MADISON COOK, Fire Wardens.  
GEORGE W. KNAPP, Fire Wardens.

NOTICE.—The Rev. Mr. CLEVELAND will officiate in St. Luke's Church in this village, on SUNDAY next. Service to commence at the usual hour of morning service.

On our first page, our readers will find a "Brief Examination" of our system of Internal Improvements by an anonymous author, who, at the outset, disclaiming all party feelings, has given us a most able exposition of the subject upon which he treats.

To our mind the writer has performed his task in a very brief, lucid and satisfactory manner, and has laid bare to the public gaze the pernicious system of Log-rolling, which unhappily has been too prevalent with the different sections of our state, and is one of the inducing causes of our present financial embarrassments. The facts detailed in the above examination, are of the utmost importance to the people of Michigan; and will at once be brought home to every reflecting mind. We are, as it were, commencing business, our credit is unimpaired, our population is industrious and enterprising, our soil is rich and valuable,—we are surrounded by a chain of lakes that afford us a natural & excellent navigation for the exportation of our products; in short all we want to insure success is prudence in our expenditures, equal and impartial laws, and above all a sacred observance of the "obligation of contracts."

It is the besetting sin of this age, to launch out upon the sea of experiment, in every department. Scarcely have we closed our eyes upon one, before another is proposed and carried into execution, as certainly to explode as to be succeeded by others of a more alarming and dangerous character. If we build unprofitable Railroads, the people must pay for the EXPENSE; our lands must be taxed to make up the deficiency; for the interest upon our State Loan must be promptly paid at maturity. According to the statement of "Honestus" we may expect that our projected rail roads and canals will cost at the lowest calculation the enormous amount of seventeen millions of dollars, exceeding the estimate of the commissioners in the sum of SEVEN MILLIONS of dollars.

But the most alarming feature in our system of improvement is to be found in the fact that our railroads and canals are running parallel with each other, and so closely placed in juxtaposition, as to render the idea of more than two per cent profit on them, absurd and ridiculous.

We will venture an opinion as to the Northern Rail Road, and set it down as our belief, that no responsible man, or set of men would agree to run cars upon it, if it cost more than the value of the cars and freight.

According to the estimate of the commissioners will cost one million four hundred and nine thousand dollars; the interest of which would amount to the sum of ninety thousand dollars per annum,—but if we take it at its real cost we might with propriety, say one hundred and fifty thousand, to be raised by tax upon our citizens.

New York today led the van in the great work of Internal Improvements throughout the country, and is now reaping a rich harvest from her splendid enterprise. But we must bear in mind that she is one of the "Old Thirteen," with such advantages of position—her territory stretching from the ocean to Lake Erie—as to make her the highway of the West to the seaboard, and defies, in a measure, the competition of her immediate neighbors—possessing such ample resources, also, as to subserve the necessity of the taxation of her citizens—and already containing a population equal to one seventh of that of the whole Union. Michigan, enterprising as she has proved herself, and equal to any ordinary emergency, can show but a blank reverse to this picture; and forcibly does the writer hold it up to our view. We are just admitted into the confederacy, and time sufficient has scarce elapsed to fix our representative star upon the broad banner of the Union. Our people, few in number, are yet struggling with the difficulties incident to the settlement of a new territory. The late financial convulsions, so severely felt in the richer community of the east, has swept through our state with the force of the hurricane, and prostrated five sixths of our Banking institutions. Credit, in a measure, is down, and our people are already suffering under the burden of excessive taxation, with the prospect in view, if our present policy is adhered to, of increasing the burden ten fold. Let us pause then, while we may—not when an enormous debt shall plunge us into inextricable insolvency, and falsify the pledged faith of the state. Let our legislative council mark the issue thus made up by "Honestus," weigh well the responsibility entrusted to their hands, and such deliberations be had and action enforced, as the grave and momentous question thus before them, imperatively demands.

FEDERAL USURPATION.—The Federalists of Illinois, defeated at the last election and sore at the loss of power, resorted to an expedient no less despicable than that tried by the identical usurpers of Pennsylvania. A majority of the Illinois senate were whigs, and for the purpose of retaining a little power in opposition to the fairly expressed will of the people, they refused the governor his universally acknowledged right to select the secretary of state, whom the constitution says he shall nominate and appoint by and with the advice and consent of the senate. The Governor made the nomination and appointment, but the secretary already in office was a whig, and the whig senate determined he should be the secretary still, so they refused to advise and consent that any other person should be the man. This is nothing incompatible with federal whiggery—assumption of power and abridgment of the rights of others have ever characterized the course of Federalism since party lines were first drawn in our republic.

The above we cut from the Detroit Free Press of the 3d inst. as a *memento* of the Editor's base, mean, and unparalleled impudence.

Here the Free Press selects one solitary instance on the part of the Whigs, in which they have refused to endorse a nomination made by the Governor of Illinois, while the TORIES of the SENATE of the STATE of New York, have refused to confirm nominations in numberless instances. The Editor of the Free Press, is, in his rage and despair, fairly "driven to the wall," and the above paragraph would most naturally remind a moderate and sound thinking man that Sylvester Daguerwood, had been translated from the Stage to the desk of its editorials.

The Editor of the Free Press is an actor of

all work" he can "scrub, whitewash or daub," lie by the hour, aye, by the month, he is so scared by infamy that shame is lost upon him. His face is an index of his mind—sneaking, mean and contemptible. Our columns will testify that we seldom or never personally charge upon our adversaries, but human nature has set bounds to patient endurance and we have, therefore, exposed a whitened sepulchre full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.

REPORT of the majority of the committee appointed to inquire into the condition of the Michigan State Bank.

This committee have made their report, and it shows this institution to be in a rotten and worthless condition. We select the following from their report, and we would call the readers attention to one singular fact therein set forth; that of \$19,919 78 which the bank claims to have received as "special deposits" the bank has allowed the commissioners of internal improvement to loan more than \$24,000, besides paying a large amount to other persons having claims against the state, and yet more than thirty thousand dollars of this same sum remain on hand. We say with the committee, this truly must be a most prolific fund.

The committee after going through with all the facts before them, come to the following conclusion.

First, that within the past year, the Michigan State Bank has received from the State Treasurer, and in behalf of the state, and principally in the credit of the general fund, \$14,919 78, which sum has been entered upon their books, and marked "special," not sealed up and placed into the vaults of the bank for safe keeping, to be handed back to the depositor in kind, but left in a condition to be handled, used or appropriated, not only by the officers of the bank, the State Treasurer, but the board of internal improvement, and various other persons under their direction, who were desirous to make selections from the same.

Second, that these funds were so situated, that your committee cannot for a moment believe, that any distinction was or could be kept under the circumstances, between the funds of the state, and similar kind of funds received by the bank; and in support of this position, is the fact, that the officers of the bank were unable to state to the committee the precise kind of funds received when those entries were made upon the books of the bank. Neither can they inform the committee for the specific kind of funds, that have been paid to contractors and others, from the internal improvement fund; but testimony has been elicited to show that a large quantity of very worthless money has been paid from that fund, and a portion of which, at an advanced period of last summer.

The officers of the bank testified before the committee, that city funds or their equivalent had been paid in all cases to those having claims upon the internal improvement fund, since the first of August last, and yet that is positively contradicted by other testimony. The president of the bank sets forth, in document D, that the state has upon special deposits in the State bank, \$30,093; and yet the concurrent testimony of Hill, the teller, and the books show that only \$10,919 78 were ever received from the state under such circumstances by the bank, except about \$300 of Ypsilanti money, not entered upon the books. And what is still more unaccountable in your committee, if the testimony is all to be believed, is the fact, that out of the \$19,919 78 has been loaned more than \$24,000 by the commissioners of internal improvement; a large amount has been paid to persons having claims against the state, and yet more than thirty thousand dollars remain on hand. This surely must be a most prolific fund.

Third, your committee deemed it important to know the amount of indebtedness to the part of the directors of said bank, to that institution, to enable them to judge of its business operations generally, and particularly of their ability to meet a recent liability that they have assumed to the state, as directors of that bank, for the security and ultimate payment of the state fund, should the bank not meet its engagements. This information, they are sorry to say, was denied them; as was also the information sought to be obtained in that very important item in their exhibit, viz: "Due from banks." This it will readily be discovered, was large, and the absolute importance to know the banks from which it was due, greatly enhanced. Yet, as suggested above, your committee was informed that the inquiry could not be answered. How far the officers of the bank are justified in withholding the information thus sought the committee leave the house to judge.—They cannot, however, allow this occasion to pass, without saying that the bank would probably have consulted its own interest, and consequently those of the state, if they had taken a different course in this investigation—shuffling evasion and concealment, are not the companions of honesty. It will also be discovered, by reference to the exhibit of the bank on the first inst., that their available assets are inadequate to meet their indebtedness to the state alone, without reference to their other liabilities. And in view of the above facts and conclusions, your committee are not at any loss to arrive at others in connection with this matter, with equal facility. And the subject involving the safety of the funds of the state, will next receive their attention. They believe the facts above stated to be sufficient to warrant them in coming to the conclusion, that the funds of the state cannot be safe while entrusted to that institution. Its course for the past year justifies the position taken. Its present condition is conclusive, and its course throughout this examination would be sufficient in the absence of all other reasons. They would therefore respectfully suggest the necessity of withholding from that bank any further deposits, and the withdrawal of the funds as soon as practicable.

Removal of the State Capital.—The Senate on Thursday last passed a bill to remove the seat of Government from Detroit, to Marshall, Calhoun county, by the following vote.

Yeas—Messrs. Bradford, McCamly, Curtis, Etheridge, Gordon, Greenly, Harrington, Summers, Wing—9.

Nays—Messrs. Gidley, Hawkins, Kingsley, Kercheval, Trowbridge, Woodbridge—6.

P S The house have indefinitely postponed the Senate's bill by a majority of 10.

Nicholas Biddle, has resigned his office as President of the United States Bank. The loco focos, should now go into mourning for the loss of so much political capital lost by this resignation. The Hon. Thomas Dunlap late second assistant cashier, was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The North Carolina Resolutions.—The House of Representatives of this State was occupied on Friday last, with the North Carolina resolutions. The Free Press devotes near three columns and a half to the proceedings held thereon, but very wisely leaves out entirely the North Carolina Resolutions, & merely refers the reader to them, (wishing him, we suppose, to go to the archives of the state and read for himself,) for the Editor well knew that the resolutions would not exactly tally with the fawning servility as exhibited in the resolutions passed by the loco loco majority of the Michigan house of Representatives. Some whigs, however, had fine sport in perplexing the Dimmy-locos, by tacking on amendments to help them along with their glorious work of adoring their masters. The following was offered by a good whig, and we are surprised that the loco focos should reject so faithful a picture of their master.

Resolved That in Martin Van Buren, the present chief magistrate of the Union, we find the man who is nearest all things to all men, of any other person known to the civilized world, that he is better adapted to be the fawning courtier at the feet of England's Queen, & better calculated to give a republican people an idea of English aristocracy than any individual within the acquaintance of the legislature.

We would call the attention of our readers to the following extract from the Journal of Commerce of the 23d ult. It will show in what estimate business men, in other parts of Union, hold the legislative proceedings of the political quacks who have the controlling power of our state Government:

MICHIGAN.—The fact stated in a letter which we published some days ago, that the legislature of Michigan had a bill under consideration making real estate a legal tender in payment of debts, has attracted the attention of our moneyed men and men of business, and put them on their guard. A state which has such laws, must expect to have a poor credit. They are a blot, not on its honesty merely, but on its good sense. If a man or a community would rise from pecuniary embarrassment, in the speediest way, they must be careful to maintain a character for integrity and wisdom. Men are sometimes obliged to break their pecuniary engagements, but they are never obliged to be knaves or fools. The States of this Union have generally a high character for intelligence and uprightness. That character is inevitable. It enables them to borrow money and construct their internal improvements upon the dormant capital of Europe, and to make themselves rich almost without effort. If they destroy or impair that credit for the sake of temporary relief to their citizens under pecuniary embarrassments, they sell their birthright for a mess of pottage. It will cost more than it comes to. They will pay dear for all such legislative quackery.

### PENSIONERS, LIGHT HOUSES AND HARBORS.

Every citizen of the west has a direct interest in the establishment of Light Houses and Harbors on our Lakes, and all have learned with regret the stand taken by the Administration in regard to this subject.—The General Government have received millions from the sale of public lands bordering on our inland seas.—If the views of Mr. Van Buren and his cabinet are persisted in, after this year, we shall get no more appropriations.

We extract the following from a subject from a speech of Mr. Prentiss, delivered at the last session of Congress.—

"Sir, the immense speculations of Swartwout, Prince and others, or rather the exposure of them, has alarmed the administration."

They propose to make up the losses by retrenchment. And what do you suppose are to be the subject of this new and sudden economy? What branches of the public service are to be lopped off on account of the licentious rapacity of the office holders? I feel too indignant to tell you.

Look into the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, and you will find out. Well, sir, what are they? Pensions, Harbors, and Light Houses. Yes, sir, these are recommended as proper subjects for retrenchment. First of all, the sacred veterans of the Revolution, are to be deprived of a portion of the pittance doled out to them by the cold charity of their country.—How many of them will you have to send forth as beggars upon the hands of tyranny, to make up the amount of even one of these splendid robberies. How many harbors—those improvements, dedicated no less to humanity than to interest; those nests of commerce, to which the canvass winged birds of the ocean flock for safety? How many Light Houses will it take? How many of those "bright eyes of the ocean," as my friend from Virginia beautifully calls them, are to be put out? How many of those faithful sentinels, who stand along our rocky coast, and peering far out in the darkness, give timely warning to the hardy mariners where the lee shore threatens—how many of these I ask, are to be discharged from their human service? Why the proposition is almost impious.—I should as soon wish to put out the stars of heaven.

Sir, my blood boils at the cold bloodshed atrocity with which this administration propose thus to sacrifice the very family jewel of the country to pay for the consequences of its own profligacy. If they wish to retrench, let them cut down salaries, instead of light houses; let them abandon offices instead of harbors; let them turn out upon the world some of their wide-mouthed partizans, instead of the soldiers of the Revolution."

The New York Commercial Advertiser thinks that France, if necessary, will offer her services as mediator upon the boundary question, as England did in the recent difficulty between the United States and France.

Governor Seward and Irishmen.—The Irish citizens of New York have presented his Excellency, Gov. Seward, with a portrait of Washington, as a testimony of their admiration of the enlightened, liberal, and patriotic sentiments of his excellency towards adopted citizens.

John Norton cashier of the Michigan State Bank, has returned from the east. The Free Press states that he has effected arrangements at the east, which will enable the bank soon to resume specie payments.

A bill for increasing the capital of the Indiana State Bank, has passed the Legislature of that State. One million and a half of dollars to be added the present year, and seven hundred and fifty thousand annually for the next four years.

## IMPORTANT FROM MAINE.

### THE WAR AT AN END.

We learn from the Eastern papers of as late date as March 25th, that Gen. Winfield Scott has effected arrangements between Sir John Harvey and Gov. Fairfield, which puts an end to the threatened war for the present. By the arrangements thus effected by the Gen. both Gov.'s are to withdraw their respective forces from the disputed territory, and await the actions of the General Government upon the question at issue.

We commend the following report of the "State Prison Investigating Committee," to the attention of the reader. It has been reserved for Michigan to exhibit such a picture—that of employing men to build a Prison, wherein to punish crimes, and those very men thus employed, by their embezzling the funds committed to their charge, to be the first who deserve to be subjected to its rigorous discipline:—

### REPORT.

Of the Committee to investigate the expenditures on State Prison, at Jacksonburg.

The select committee instructed to inquire into the proceedings of the Commissioners on the State Penitentiary, beg leave to

### REPORT.

That under the instructions from the Senate, the committee repaired to Jacksonburg, and there personally examined the work done on the penitentiary, and other buildings reported to belong to the State.

The committee also examined as far as practicable, the books and papers of the acting commissioner, with a view to ascertain the amount of money actually expended upon the public works at Jackson, as well as the manner of the expenditure. From all the sources of information to which the committee have had access, the inference is irresistible, that the report of the public works at Jackson, made by the acting commissioner, on the 3d of November last, and communicated to the Senate by the Auditor General, contains any thing but a fair statement of the condition of the works, and of the acts of the commissioner in relation thereto.

The committee feel confident that no correct statement can be made of the money expended for the State in the progress of erecting the penitentiary, until the accounts of the present commissioners are audited and settled, a task of no inconsiderable importance, and the committee deem it proper at this time, to suggest to the Senate the propriety and necessity of investing some competent person with authority to repair to Jackson, with full powers to audit the accounts and settle with the commissioners.

The committee would, with great deference, suggest to the Senate the propriety of the reorganization of the board of commissioners. Upon the formation of a new board, the committee desire to submit their reflections hereafter, when the committee shall have made up an estimate of a proper sum to be appropriated to carry on the work for another year.

THOMAS J. DRAKE,  
SANDS McCAMLY,  
TOWNSEND E. GIDLEY,

Editorial Recorder.—The Recorder has just commenced its nineteenth volume. Its enterprising proprietors have enlarged the dimensions of the Recorder and much improved its appearance in every respect.

The great Presbyterian case has been decided in favor of the New School Assembly.

BOMBARDMENT OF BUENOS AYRES.—More confirmation.—The Boston Transcript of Tuesday evening, contains the following extract of a letter to a gentleman in that city, dated

RIO JANEIRO, Feb. 1, 1839.

There is a French frigate now



